



Complete Summary

TITLE

Chronic wound care: percentage of patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of chronic skin ulcer undergoing debridement with documentation of wound characteristics (including at a minimum: size, AND nature of wound base tissue, AND amount of drainage) prior to debridement.

SOURCE(S)

American Society for Plastic Surgeons (ASPS), Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®, National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). Chronic wound care physician performance measurement set. Chicago (IL): American Medical Association (AMA); 2008 Aug. 35 p. [19 references]

Measure Domain

PRIMARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Process

The validity of measures depends on how they are built. By examining the key building blocks of a measure, you can assess its validity for your purpose. For more information, visit the [Measure Validity](#) page.

SECONDARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Does not apply to this measure

Brief Abstract

DESCRIPTION

This measure is used to assess the percentage of patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of chronic skin ulcer undergoing debridement with documentation of wound characteristics (including at a minimum: size, AND nature of wound base tissue, AND amount of drainage) prior to debridement.

RATIONALE

With the increasing costs and services associated with debridement and the potential overuse of these procedures, documenting the wound characteristics prior to debridement is important to confirm the medical necessity of the procedure. A review of surgical debridement services billed to Medicare in 2004,

by the Office of the Inspector General, found that 29% of services had no documentation or insufficient documentation to determine whether the services were medically necessary or were coded accurately. Another important purpose of assessing and documenting the characteristics of the wound is to monitor wound progress and subsequently evaluate the treatment regimen and make any necessary adjustments.

The following clinical recommendation statements are quoted verbatim from the referenced clinical guidelines and represent the evidence base for the measure:

Document characteristics of the wound:

- Size
- Nature of wound base tissue
- Amount of drainage (American Society of Plastic Surgeons [ASPS], 2007)

There should be an ongoing and consistent documentation of wound history, recurrence, and characteristics (location, size, base, exudates, condition of the surrounding skin, staging, and pain) to evaluate wound bed preparation. The rate of wound healing should be evaluated to determine whether treatment is optimal. (Wound Healing Society [WHS], 2006)

PRIMARY CLINICAL COMPONENT

Chronic wound care; chronic skin ulcer; documentation of wound characteristics

DENOMINATOR DESCRIPTION

All patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of chronic skin ulcer undergoing debridement

Note: Refer to the original measure documentation for administrative codes.

NUMERATOR DESCRIPTION

Patients with documentation of wound characteristics (including at a minimum: size, AND nature of wound base tissue, AND amount of drainage) prior to debridement

Note: Refer to the original measure documentation for administrative codes.

Evidence Supporting the Measure

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE CRITERION OF QUALITY

- A clinical practice guideline or other peer-reviewed synthesis of the clinical evidence

NATIONAL GUIDELINE CLEARINGHOUSE LINK

- [Chronic wounds of the lower extremity.](#)

Evidence Supporting Need for the Measure

NEED FOR THE MEASURE

Overall poor quality for the performance measured
Use of this measure to improve performance

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING NEED FOR THE MEASURE

Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General. Medicare payments for surgical debridement services in 2004. Washington (DC): Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General; 2007 May. 27 p.

State of Use of the Measure

STATE OF USE

Current routine use

CURRENT USE

Internal quality improvement

Application of Measure in its Current Use

CARE SETTING

Physician Group Practices/Clinics

PROFESSIONALS RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE

Physicians

LOWEST LEVEL OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY ADDRESSED

Individual Clinicians

TARGET POPULATION AGE

Age greater than or equal to 18 years

TARGET POPULATION GENDER

Either male or female

STRATIFICATION BY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

Characteristics of the Primary Clinical Component

INCIDENCE/PREVALENCE

See the "Rationale" field.

ASSOCIATION WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

BURDEN OF ILLNESS

Unspecified

UTILIZATION

Unspecified

COSTS

Unspecified

Institute of Medicine National Healthcare Quality Report Categories

IOM CARE NEED

Getting Better
Living with Illness

IOM DOMAIN

Effectiveness

Data Collection for the Measure

CASE FINDING

Users of care only

DESCRIPTION OF CASE FINDING

All patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of chronic skin ulcer undergoing debridement

DENOMINATOR SAMPLING FRAME

Patients associated with provider

DENOMINATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

All patients aged 18 years and older with a diagnosis of chronic skin ulcer undergoing debridement

Note: Refer to the original measure documentation for administrative codes.

Exclusions

None

RELATIONSHIP OF DENOMINATOR TO NUMERATOR

All cases in the denominator are equally eligible to appear in the numerator

DENOMINATOR (INDEX) EVENT

Clinical Condition
Encounter
Therapeutic Intervention

DENOMINATOR TIME WINDOW

Time window is a single point in time

NUMERATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

Patients with documentation of wound characteristics (including at a minimum: size, AND nature of wound base tissue, AND amount of drainage) prior to debridement

Note: Refer to the original measure documentation for administrative codes.

Exclusions

None

MEASURE RESULTS UNDER CONTROL OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR POLICYMAKERS

The measure results are somewhat or substantially under the control of the health care professionals, organizations and/or policymakers to whom the measure applies.

NUMERATOR TIME WINDOW

Encounter or point in time

DATA SOURCE

Administrative data
Medical record

LEVEL OF DETERMINATION OF QUALITY

Individual Case

PRE-EXISTING INSTRUMENT USED

Unspecified

Computation of the Measure**SCORING**

Rate

INTERPRETATION OF SCORE

Better quality is associated with a higher score

ALLOWANCE FOR PATIENT FACTORS

Unspecified

STANDARD OF COMPARISON

Internal time comparison

Evaluation of Measure Properties**EXTENT OF MEASURE TESTING**

Unspecified

Identifying Information**ORIGINAL TITLE**

Measure #3: assessment of wound characteristics in patients undergoing debridement.

MEASURE COLLECTION

[The Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® Measurement Sets](#)

MEASURE SET NAME

[Chronic Wound Care Physician Performance Measurement Set](#)

SUBMITTER

American Medical Association on behalf of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®, and National Committee for Quality Assurance

DEVELOPER

American Society of Plastic Surgeons
National Committee for Quality Assurance
Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®

FUNDING SOURCE(S)

Unspecified

COMPOSITION OF THE GROUP THAT DEVELOPED THE MEASURE

Scott Endsley, MD, MSc (*Co-Chair*); William A. Wooden, MD, FACS (*Co-Chair*); Nicholas Biasotto, DO; Kathleen Lawrence, RN, MSN, CWOCN; Sergey V. Bogdan, MD; Andrew Maurano, PA-C; Stephen K. Bubb, MD; Mark Morasch, MD; H. Gunner Deery, II, MD, FACP, FIDSA; Jessica Pedersen, MBA, OTR/L, ATP; Dirk M. Elston, MD; Michael M. Priebe, MD; Elof Eriksson, MD; Aamir Siddiqui, MD; George Fueredi, MD; Carole (Carrie) Sussman, PT, DPT; Matthew G. Garoufalis, DPM; Amy Wandel, MD, FACS; Sarah Kagan, PhD, RN

American Society of Plastic Surgeons: Melanie Dolak, MHA

American Medical Association: Joseph Gave, MPH; Karen Kmetik, PhD; Shannon Sims, MD, PhD; Samantha Tierney, MPH

National Committee for Quality Assurance: Phil Renner, MBA

PCPI Consultants: Rebecca Kresowik; Timothy Kresowik, MD

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES/OTHER POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Conflicts, if any, are disclosed in accordance with the Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® conflict of interest policy.

ADAPTATION

Measure was not adapted from another source.

RELEASE DATE

2008 Aug

MEASURE STATUS

This is the current release of the measure.

SOURCE(S)

American Society for Plastic Surgeons (ASPS), Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement®, National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). Chronic wound care physician performance measurement set. Chicago (IL): American Medical Association (AMA); 2008 Aug. 35 p. [19 references]

MEASURE AVAILABILITY

The individual measure, "Measure #3: Assessment of Wound Characteristics in Patients Undergoing Debridement," is published in "Chronic Wound Care Physician Performance Measurement Set." This document and technical specifications are available in Portable Document Format (PDF) from the American Medical Association (AMA)-convened Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® Web site: www.physicianconsortium.org.

For further information, please contact AMA staff by e-mail at cqi@ama-assn.org.

NQMC STATUS

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI Institute on April 7, 2009. The information was verified by the measure developer on June 4, 2009.

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT

© 2008 American Medical Association and National Committee for Quality Assurance. All Rights Reserved.

CPT® Copyright 2007 American Medical Association

Disclaimer

NQMC DISCLAIMER

The National Quality Measures Clearinghouse™ (NQMC) does not develop, produce, approve, or endorse the measures represented on this site.

All measures summarized by NQMC and hosted on our site are produced under the auspices of medical specialty societies, relevant professional associations, public and private organizations, other government agencies, health care organizations or plans, individuals, and similar entities.

Measures represented on the NQMC Web site are submitted by measure developers, and are screened solely to determine that they meet the NQMC

Inclusion Criteria which may be found at
<http://www.qualitymeasures.ahrq.gov/about/inclusion.aspx>.

NQMC, AHRQ, and its contractor ECRI Institute make no warranties concerning the content or its reliability and/or validity of the quality measures and related materials represented on this site. The inclusion or hosting of measures in NQMC may not be used for advertising or commercial endorsement purposes.

Readers with questions regarding measure content are directed to contact the measure developer.

[Copyright/Permission Requests](#)

Date Modified: 7/27/2009

